



CORN AND HOGS AS WELL AS GRASS AND GATTLE IN WEST

FACTS FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS TO MAKE YOU "SIT UP AND TAKE NOTICE" IF YOU HAVEN'T THOUGHT SO—
JUST A FEW FIGURES

(By John W. Thomas)

Time and again I have heard it said that western Nebraska (referring to the "panhandle" of the state and the counties lying immediately east of it) is not a corn country. There are people, too, who think that about all the domestic animals there are in this part of the state are cattle and cow ponies.

Such statements and ideas need to be revised.

To be sure this is a great cattle country, I think about the best in the world for growing feeder stuff. The sandhills are devoted almost exclusively to cattle ranching; but there are thousands of acres, hundreds of thousands, in fact, of tablelands that are used for other purposes, successfully and profitably.

In the last special semi-monthly edition of The Herald, I gave some official statistics showing that this end of the state is pre-eminently Nebraska's great potato field. Read the rest of this story and you will see that, in one respect at least, this country is also better adapted to raising hogs than the cholera-infected sections known as "the corn belt".

Growing the Stuff to Feed Them

When some of us were farmer boys in Iowa and Illinois and other hog raising states, it was that the only feed for swine was corn with blue grass and clover pasture in the summer time. In Nebraska alfalfa not only makes the best of pasture but also takes the place of corn to a considerable extent, as feed for the pigs.

The acreage annually planted to corn in the extreme western part of the state is comparatively small yet, but it is bound to increase. It is already increasing year by year. However, the corn acreage for 1919 will probably not be much larger than it was in 1918, on account of the government guarantee of wheat prices which will apply to this year's crop.

With the average yield per acre smaller in western Nebraska than farther east, which it usually has

been in the past, corn can still be grown cheaper here, considering the price of land and the amount of labor required to keep the growing crop free from weeds. But the yield is not always smaller. In recent years the average for northwestern Nebraska has not differed much from the average for the entire state.

Last year every county west of the center of the state and north of the Platte river had an average yield per acre of corn larger than the average for the balance of the state. According to the official bulletin issued by the State Board of Agriculture the average yield per acre for the state as a whole was seventeen and seven-tenths bushels.

Here are the figures for a dozen or more western Nebraska counties, average yield per acre of corn in 1918, taken from the above mentioned bulletin: Banner county, 21; Box Butte, 22; Cherry, 22; Cheyenne, 20; Dawes, 19; Deuel, 20; Garden, 21; Grant, 22; Hooker, 24; Kimball, 19; Logan, 18; McPherson, 20; Morrill, 20; Scotts Bluff, 23; Sheridan, 21; Sioux, 20; Thomas, 23.

Most Healthy Hog Country

Of much more importance than a difference of a few bushels per acre in the yield of corn, to the man who makes a business of raising hogs, is the matter of the health of his animals. The tremendous losses sustained by farmers in some parts of the so-called corn belt, from cholera and other diseases, cut a big hole in the profits and some years take more than all the profit they would otherwise make off their farms.

I venture to say that some farmers of eastern Nebraska and other similar sections could well afford to ship their corn a few hundred miles to feed it to their hogs, if by so doing they could avoid losses by disease. And it isn't much of a venture to make this statement, as I have statistics before me that justify it.

One small county in eastern Nebraska, less than fifty miles from the Missouri river, lost 8,041 hogs last year, which was more than thirty

Nebraska High Spots

- First in potash production.
- First in silica production.
- First in lead ore reduction.
- First in per capita auto ownership.
- First in per capita sales of war savings stamps.
- Second in hay production.
- Third in cattle production.
- Third in corn production.
- Fourth in hog production.
- Fifth in beet sugar production.
- The per capita wealth is \$2,904.
- The average annual income from the soil of every family in Nebraska is \$2,759.
- The Nebraska cow has made Omaha the leading butter manufacturing city in the U. S. A.
- Nebraska's egg production is greater than the gold output of any state.

per cent of the number reported in the assessment for April. In the opposite end of the state, the loss in Box Butte county was less than three and one-half per cent of the number on hand April 1.

It may be that the above are extreme cases and do not represent average conditions in the two ends of the state. That is true only to a limited extent. Take all of the counties of the counties of the east end, and the average percentage of loss is several times higher than the average percentage of loss in the west end counties, leaving out the irrigated sections.

Out side of the irrigated portion of western Nebraska, the health conditions for hogs are very much better—extremely so—than in eastern Nebraska, Iowa and Illinois. Altho I have no statistics at hand for the two states last named, I am satisfied from general knowledge of conditions that this is true of them as well as for eastern Nebraska.

A Concluding Squeal

It may be that by some that I am prejudiced in favor of western Nebraska in writing this hog story; but that is not necessarily the case. I am simply calling attention to facts regarding Nebraska that even Nebraska people are not ordinarily familiar with.

The mortality among hogs in the whole of Nebraska last year, including the healthier portions of the state with the unhealthy, was more than eleven per cent of the total number reported for April 1 assessment. Box Butte county may be an exceptionally good county for making the comparison favorable to western Nebraska, but there are others nearly as good, including the two adjoining counties of Sheridan and Dawes in which the number of hogs dying in 1918 was only slightly more than four per cent.

PERMANENT MEMORIALS FOR OUR NEBRASKA SOLDIERS BOYS

TENTATIVE PLANS ALREADY MADE IN VARIOUS PLACES FOR ERECTING SAME—NEBRASKA MUST HURRY UP TO KEEP IN THE LEAD

Nebraska earned a great reputation prior to the signing of the armistice for taking a leading part in the various war time drives. She was always in the front ranks and sometimes the leader of them all. Now that the question of erecting memorials in honor of the soldier boys has come up, our great state will need to move quickly in order to fully retain her prestige.

Some parts of the state have already made preliminary arrangements for the erection of suitable memorials, but many places have as yet taken no steps in the matter. In some places these arrangements are undertaken by the counties, as a whole, and in some places by cities and villages.

Boyd county, one of the smallest counties in the state, has already commenced to raise a fund which when completed will amount to more than five thousand dollars, and may reach seven thousand, for the erection of a memorial at Butte, the county seat. Knox county, in the northeast part of the state, has also started such a fund, while a woman's organization of McCook, in southwest Nebraska, has about two thousand dollars already in sight for the erection of a memorial in that city.

What Kind of a Memorial?

The first question that comes up is what kind of a memorial shall be erected? It has been suggested that such memorials be in the form of public buildings, such as public libraries, hospitals, city halls, etc., or public parks. Such suggestions have come from members of the S. P. U. G. (Society for the Promotion of Useful Gifts) which became popular some years ago.

At first flush, the suggestion seems to be a good one—"killing two birds with one stone," so to speak, supplying a memorial for the soldiers and at the same time furnishing something useful to the public; but the idea seems to lose, rather than gain popularity under the consideration which is being given to it by the press of this country, including some of the leading magazines.

Readers of The Herald who are interested in the matter of erecting memorials in honor of our soldier boys and who wish those memorials to be both appropriate and permanent will find interesting and helpful suggestions in the following clipping from The Literary Digest of March 1:

Monumental Memorial Most Appropriate

Fears that we may return again to "the dismal Stone Age" and repeat "scrupulous atrocities" that followed the Civil War as memorials to soldier deeds, are put forth as warnings for the present. So great is the dread in some sections that almost anything but a monumental memorial is proposed. "Hospitals, civic centers, auditoriums, organs, arches, and all sorts of things have been suggested as appropriate," says The Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville), going on to remind the perpetrators of all that "To the extent that whatever is built is useful, it is not a memorial." The utilitarian motive gets a jolt from a number of places, but none more vigorously than this from Jacksonville:

"A hall would be a hall, a hospital would be a hospital, anything useful would be considered for its use and sooner or later the fact would be forgotten that it was erected for any other purpose than to serve the need for which it was used. And even if the memorial purpose with which the building was coupled should be remembered it would also be remembered that it was not built solely for that purpose. It would be a testimonial to the future that the people of the year 1919 were not willing to spend money merely in the honor of the soldiers who had fought for American ideals. This would not be false impressions; it would be a fact: It would be the act of a man giving his wife a sack of flour or a piece of household furniture for a birthday present. The memorial that would be really expressive of our admiration and our gratitude to the American soldier should express that and nothing else. A cotton-wool or a packing house in their honor would be about as appropriate a memorial as anything else that would be something else besides a memorial."

Even a triumphal arch, which has served this and other purposes in the past, fails to meet the present requirement, the divested of utility. A Boston speaker declares that it emphasizes "the glory of conquest springing motive in this and throughout rather than the spiritual side of victory"—words that the Minneapolis Journal quotes with approval, following with the assertion that "the inspiring motive in this war was, of course, the freedom of humanity and human brotherhood," and "somehow a memorial should symbolize these things."

Chairman Commission of Fine Arts

Charles Moore, chairman of the United States Commission of Fine Arts, has written a press letter that has been largely published and from which the following is an extract:

The passion for erecting commemorative monuments is stronger among Americans than among any other people on earth. There are equestrian statues in Washington that in any other city in the world. What town is so poor or so new that it has no monument to its heroes of the Civil War?

The memorials we set up should be worthy of the cause. Preferably an architect of good taste and good judgment should be consulted. He will be able to advise in regard to the site. Also as to the form that the memorial shall take. A commemorative fountain might be the very best form, if the money is sufficient. If it is to be a statue, there is the question as to bronze or stone. In any case the site must be prepared so as to give the memorial a proper landscape setting. This is quite as important as the monument itself.

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NEBRASKA LEGISLATORS

Thousands of voters would like to have an accurate representation of the work of their state senators and representatives in the legislature. It is difficult to find such representation in public print, for the reason that partisan publications favor and unduly praise their political friends and unfairly criticize political opponents.

After the adjournment of the present session of the legislature, a sketch of the legislative work and votes of the individual members, written from an unbiased and non-partisan viewpoint, will be published in the special semi-monthly edition of The Herald. These sketches will include state senators from the Sixth congressional district and some from other parts of the state.

POTATO STOCKS ARE NOW ON THE MARKET

Better Prices at Big Markets causing holders of 1918 crop in Box Butte County to Start for Market

The gradual increase of prices for 1918 crop of potatoes at the larger markets, reflected in slightly better prices offered here, is causing the holders of many thousands of bushels in Box Butte county to look for markets. One Box Butte potato grower has 5,000 bushels of the 1918 crop which he expects to sell quickly. Others have lesser amounts but the aggregate is large.

From the present outlook it is believed that the acreage in Box Butte county will be larger this year than in 1918. Experienced potato men, who have watched the markets for the past five to ten years, figure that this is to be a good potato year. Prices in their opinion, will be better than for the past two years, due to the fact that many localities in other sections of the country are cutting down their acreage.

The market over the country, according to the Packer, were better last week. They were reported as follows:

Chicago Market Was Firm

Chicago—The potato market was easy and lower early last week under heavier receipts and increased shipments from all producing sections. The higher paying price at loading stations the week before brought a good bit of stock out of farmers hands which resulted in the increased arrivals of this week, and a consequent weaker situation. Reports coming in from the outside indicate that growers are letting up on hauling now, in view of the lower market, which would indicate less stock coming in next week than arrived this week.

Under liberal offerings, buyers were particular in their wants and it was only the bang-up good cars that moved well. And real fancy goods have been rather scarce as there was a lot of inferior stuff coming in and some trouble was experienced from frozen bottoms and sides.

Tuesday the market was weaker with Minnesota and Wisconsin bulk No. 1 white stock selling at \$1.175 per cwt; sacked stock from these states brought \$1.50@1.60 Michigan bulk No. 1 white stock sold at \$1.60@1.65; Wisconsin sacked No. 1 early Rose at \$1.80@1.85, and Idaho

Kansas City Market Advances

Kansas City—A better demand was responsible for small price advances in the local potato market early last week. Good strength prevailed in the buying and movement has been limited only by the supply. Heavier loadings in the North promise larger offerings in the near future market to be crowded enough to have a bearish effect on the prices.

No. 1 sacked stock is jobbing by the cwt. in carlots in line with the following quotations: Northern Red River Ohio \$1.60@1.70; Western Red McClures \$1.65@1.70; Nebraska Early Ohio and Bliss Triumph \$1.50@1.60; Minnesota round white \$1.50@1.60; Minnesota Burbanks \$1.60@1.65; Western Russets, \$1.75@1.85; Triumphs \$1.35@1.40.

Home Nursing

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